

WALKING WITH HOPE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - MAY 2026

ST. JAMES INSTITUTE



ABOUT THE ST. JAMES INSTITUTE

05
26

St. James Institute is a Catholic social initiative dedicated to accompanying young people who seek to pursue technical or university studies. St. James especially supports those who come from foster homes, orphanages, and situations of vulnerability.

St. James provides guidance and support to young people so they can achieve an academic level of formation, gain practical experience, and develop the character and values that will help them better reach their goals and serve their families, communities, and society as a whole.

With this purpose, St. James focuses on providing a range of student services within a safe, close, and family-like environment, where each young person can receive support according to his or her needs. This support may include financial assistance for university expenses, student housing, food, transportation, mentoring services, job placement, the promotion of entrepreneurship, and other areas of support that the student may need and that St. James is able to provide.

In this way, through its services to young people, St. James seeks to promote the development of their talents and strengthen their character and values through study, work, and service.

We are deeply grateful for your interest in our work, and we also sincerely appreciate any support or collaboration you may wish to offer to help this mission grow and reach more young people.



OPENING MESSAGE

May 2026 was a month of significant growth and activity for St. James Institute.

We welcomed new students into our program, participated actively in pastoral and community initiatives, strengthened relationships with key partners, and shared our mission with potential donors and collaborators. We also continued developing the essential documentation and organizational foundations needed to ensure the long-term growth and sustainability of our mission.



MOST IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

Welcoming students

- We interviewed more than 15 candidates and selected Christopher and Erick to begin their vocational guidance and accompaniment process. Christopher, an 18-year-old young man, was also welcomed into the Casa St. James community.

Improving Casa St. James - Plan 3000

- We completed essential reinforcement work on the water tank, helping resolve leakage and humidity problems. We also repaired the sidewalk and improved garage access to protect the property and ensure greater safety.

Strengthening partnerships

- We hosted young people and representatives from Barrio Juvenil Don Bosco and continued meeting with residential homes, universities, and Church leaders to develop future admissions, scholarships, and institutional partnerships.

Commitment to safeguarding

- Our team, caregivers, and young participants completed the abuse-prevention training organized by PASOC Cáritas, strengthening our commitment to providing a safe environment for everyone involved in the program.

Positive institutional evaluation

- Members of the PASOC Cáritas Commission of Homes visited Casa St. James, positively evaluated its progress, and invited the Institute to present its work before the Commission in July.

Building our institutional foundations

- We developed admission forms, educational commitment agreements, financial records, and informational materials. We also continued working on our new logo, brochure, and website.



A STORY OF HOPE

One of the most meaningful moments of May was welcoming Christopher into the Casa St. James community. At only 18 years old, he arrived with a sincere desire to continue his education, grow as a person, and build a better future.

His arrival reflects the heart of our mission: offering young people not only a place to live, but also guidance, fraternity, formation, and opportunities to become independent.

We also welcomed young men from Barrio Juvenil Don Bosco. Seeing their enthusiasm as they visited the house and learned about the program reminded us why this mission is so important. Little by little, Casa St. James is becoming a true home of hope for young people preparing to begin adult life.



COMMUNITY AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

Faith and community life remain central to the mission of the St. James Institute. During May, we participated regularly in Sunday Mass, supported children's catechesis, joined the Wednesday Rosary, and helped organize parish celebrations for Mother's Day and Pentecost.

We were also appointed as a guiding couple in our parish and offered Casa St. James as a space for formation activities. Through these experiences, the Institute is becoming more deeply rooted in the local Church and increasingly available as a place of service, formation, and encounter for the wider community.



INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:



May was an important month for strengthening the organizational foundations of the St. James Institute. We developed admission forms, student study commitment agreements, accounting records, and informational materials for donors and partner institutions.

We also continued developing the St. James website, installed a printer for administrative and educational use, and acquired essential office and kitchen supplies. In preparation for welcoming more students, we requested quotations for additional furniture and mattresses.

At Casa St. James, we completed essential maintenance and infrastructure improvements, including reinforcement and waterproofing of the water tank, sidewalk and exterior repairs, garden maintenance, and better organization of the kitchen.

These steps are helping the Institute become more organized, transparent, sustainable, and prepared to provide responsible accompaniment to current and future students.



CURRENT NEEDS



As the St. James Institute continues to grow, several important needs remain:

- Beds, mattresses, and bedding for future resident students.
- Educational scholarships and assistance with study-related expenses.
- Financial support for food, transportation, utilities, and other daily operating costs.
- Kitchen appliances, repairs, and essential household supplies.
- Additional furniture and practical storage solutions.
- Ongoing maintenance and improvements at Casa St. James.
- Support for vocational guidance, formation, mentoring, and student accompaniment programs.

We continue moving forward carefully and step by step, prioritizing the most essential needs while ensuring the responsible and transparent use of every resource entrusted to us.

WAYS TO HELP

Zelle is available through most U.S. banks.

To donate, open your banking app, select Zelle, and send your contribution using the following tag:

Zelle Tag: SJ17268

There are many ways to support the mission of the St. James Institute:

- Pray for our students and the mission of Casa St. James.
- Sponsor a student's education or contribute to a scholarship.
- Donate furniture, appliances, educational materials, or essential supplies.
- Contribute toward housing, food, transportation, infrastructure, and operational expenses.
- Connect the Institute with universities, organizations, professionals, or potential benefactors.
- Share our mission with others who may feel called to support this work.

Every contribution, large or small, helps provide our students with greater stability, new opportunities, and the support they need to build a prosperous future.



414-677-2768

Every contribution, no matter the size, helps support the education and formation of our youth.

LOOKING AHEAD

In the coming months, we hope to:

- Welcome additional students into the St. James program.
- Strengthen partnerships with orphanages, residential homes, universities, and Church institutions.
- Continue improving Casa St. James and preparing it to serve more students.
- Expand educational, vocational, and scholarship opportunities.
- Participate more actively in Archdiocesan youth initiatives, including activities related to World Youth Day.
- Continue building a stable and sustainable institutional structure for long-term growth.

We move forward with hope, trusting that God will continue guiding this mission step by step.



CLOSING AND GRATITUDE

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the priests, religious, benefactors, volunteers, and friends who continue to support the St. James Institute through prayer, encouragement, guidance, and generosity.

We are especially grateful to the Archdiocese of Santa Cruz, PASOC Cáritas, the residential homes and institutions collaborating with us, and everyone who believes in the importance of accompanying students with dignity, faith, and love. Thank you for walking with us in this mission of hope.

Brother John Paul Tran, O.S.A. Prim
Stefani Mostacedo
Omar Kucharsky
Leadership Team of the St. James Institute



St. James Institute

8103 Shelton Dr
Fort Worth, TX 76120
United States



+1 414-677-2768



anthony@sjisga.com



www.sjisga.com

